

Rewald got on alumni list for \$10, witness says

Special to The Journal

Honolulu, Hawaii — Ronald Rewald, standing trial here on charges that he swindled investors of \$10 million, got his name listed on Marquette University Law School alumni records by paying \$10, university officials testified Tuesday.

The government claims that Rewald is attempting to use minor ties with the CIA as justification for taking money from investors and spending it rather than investing it.

Rewald claims that he was an undercover CIA agent and that the CIA set up and ran his company. Rewald's attorneys claim that the CIA provided Rewald with diplomas from Marquette as part of his cover. The CIA denies providing the diplomas, although it admits that Rewald provided telephone and Telex backstopping for several CIA agents operating overseas.

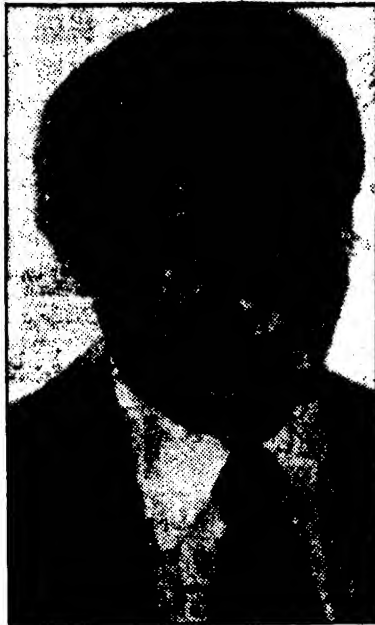
Alfred G. Eberle Jr., executive director of alumni relations at Marquette, testified that Rewald had sent \$10 to the university's Alumni Association in 1978 requesting a replacement membership card for the Law Alumni Association.

Several days later the university wrote back, thanking Rewald for his "gift of \$10" and enclosing brochures on the alumni group.

Rewald responded, saying he still wanted a Law Alumni Association card, according to testimony.

The outcome of the series of letters was that Rewald did not get a Law Alumni Association card but that his name ended up on two alumni association membership lists. Anyone contacting the alumni associations might have assumed that Rewald had graduated from the law school.

Rewald never attended Marquette or its law school, but he displayed



Ronald Rewald

A witness from the CIA printing office previously had testified that the CIA did not make the diplomas. The CIA graphics specialist said the documents were poorly done.

After the collapse of Bishop, Baldwin in 1983, Marquette received a number of inquiries about Rewald's graduation claims, Eberle said. As soon as university officials realized that Rewald had managed to get his name on alumni rosters, they changed the way those rosters were compiled, he said. Eberle said alumni rosters were now checked against actual registration records.

MU diplomas, first in his Milwaukee sporting goods business office and later in the Honolulu offices of Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham & Wong, according to testimony.

He at times claimed to be a graduate of the MU business school and the MU law school and even told the CIA that he held a doctoral degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, according to testimony.

Rewald actually attended what is now the Milwaukee Area Technical College, according to testimony.

Anthony Tortorella, associate registrar at MU, testified Tuesday that two of Rewald's fake diplomas apparently had been copied from MU diplomas from the early 1960s. A third diploma apparently was copied from a diploma issued in the 1940s or 1950s, he testified.